Application No.: 10/553,129 Docket No.: 9988.240.00

## **REMARKS**

By this Preliminary Amendment, claims 1-21 and 27 have been amended. Claims 22-26 have been canceled. Claim 28 has been added. No new matter has been added.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Dated: October 23, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

Mark R. Krestoff

Registration No.: 42,766

McKENN LONG & ALDRIDGE LLP

1900 K Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20006

(202) 496-7500

Attorney for Applicant